

CHAPTERS EFFECTIVE

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HONGKONG TEMPERATURE

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CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

September 24th						
BAROMETRIC THERMOMETER. &c.	Barometer	Thermometer	WIND.	MOON.	SHADE TEMP.	WIND DIRECTION.
	On shore. At sea.	On shore. At sea.	On shore. At sea.	On shore. At sea.	On shore. At sea.	On shore. At sea.
Barometer.	30.3	30.0				
Thermometer attached	84.3	81.0				80.0
Direction of Wind.	E					W
Force of Wind.	6	7				1
Bar. Thermometer.	83.5	82.5				77.5
Th. Thermometer.	83.7	84.0				79.0
Weather.	b.c.	b.c.				OCCL
Sea.	1	1				
Country fallen.	1	1				

NEWS FOR THE ENGLISH MA

BROTHEL SLAVERY IN HONGKON

The subject of slavery in Hongkong is one of those about which so much has been said at various times. I have said that it might have been thought difficult to add anything fresh to the discussion. The Colony is, however, indebted to his Lordship the Chief Justice for the valuable statement he made on the 20th instance on the law of the Colony with regard to the subject. Sir John Stirling on various occasions uttered felicitous remarks on the subject, and it certainly cannot be charged against his Lordship that he quixotically charged at a windmill in so doing, for the evil which he denounced unfortunately did exist. Sir J. Stirling was his action in this matter unproductive of good, for he did not suggest any remedy to be subjected to which ought certainly to be taken to banish the evil. Of the good he did, however, was he unaccompanied with evil, for, while he was in the way of suggesting a practical remedy for the evil, his utterances gave rise to a false impression that slavery was in some way officially sanctioned or allowed. It is a mistake to suppose that the British Consulate here, as elsewhere in the British Colonies, has any official sanction to give to the law, but still the effect of his remarks was to give an idea that the law was in some way faulty, and also to throw blame on officers to whom no blame properly attached. This is amply shown by the fact that the Consul and the subject various times and on various occasions, and on the whole, we think, his difficult suggestion, in amendment of the law with regard to slavery, or the illegal detention of persons, particularly women and children, in Hongkong. The only difficulty is the detection of the offence and the informing of the subject of his rights. As in addition to the ordinary means of detecting offences, legalised slavery impossible; there is no force in Hongkong various Ordinances passed for the purpose of more effectively preventing the evil. With regard to emigration there are special provisions to prevent the taking out of the colony of persons who would emigrate as slaves. With regard to the unfortunate brothel system there are also special provisions for the protection of women and female children rendered necessary or expedient, as Sir George PLESTON says, by the ignorance of those in whose hands the provisions were made. There is one point, however, in his Lordship's statement which is hardly correct. He says, "In countries where slavery has prevailed the effect of withdrawing the countenance of the law from the slaveholder has had the effect of abolishing it without any other measure." Slavery cannot exist unless it is "sanctioned by law." With regard to the origin and the maintenance of slavery, their forced service in ordinary occupations, this is no doubt true, but the experience of many may say, almost every country in Europe shows that the men fact of the law refusing the countenance to the slaveholder does not prevent the illegal detention of females in the same manner for service in houses of ill fame. Their Hongkong does not occupy a peculiar position in this respect. It is only as the peculiar circumstances of the Colony and the ingrained ideas and customs of the native population have rendered even the law of the land ineffective and the abuses of the law have been the matter was so generally discussed. When this matter was variously discussed a year or two ago, it was suggested, as the most practical step that could be taken, the issue of a proclamation by the Government, and its dissemination amongst the porous-morality immediately affected. So far as we are aware, no such course was ever stopped, but was not taken. It is a pity that the Registrar of the office of Registrar-General takes no adequate measures for the information as to their rights, of the females registered as prostitutes in his office as prostitutes. The

tion. **Dr. Russell** is a thoroughly practical officer, and his experience in the offices of the **Magistrate and Acting Attorney-General** eminently fits him for dealing with the abuses in question so far as it is within the province of his present department to do so. He has, therefore, recommended the course we ourselves suggested, and the issuance of a proclamation, or notice, or whatever it may be called, but—whereas we suggested that this should be done by the Government—he thinks "the Society that has recently been formed here for the purpose of preventing the purchase and sale of women and children" should be the proper party to "let these circumstances be announced 'all the women in brothels.' This we do not characterize as anything but a very dangerous and mischievous expression. Judge Lu often speaks thoughtlessly, forgetting his immense weight with the attaches to the Legation, and the Chinese Government, and he is a trouble to the **Pro Leung Kuk**, the Society which his Lordship referred to, not for the purpose of "preventing the purchase and sale of women," but "to assure in the suppression of the crime of kidnapping" (*vide* the Society's rules), and to prevent the Government from the purchase and sale of women and children. Kidnapping are as different as the legitimate conveyance of goods and the stealing of the same. We have no dissonance at the Society for the apprehension of kidnapping; we have no doubt it will be the duty of the Government to have proper, given official sanction to the avowedness of its assistance. But the purpose of the Society is scope must be very distinctly borne in mind. It is true that the clause of the Society's rules the following words occur:—"The Society will endeavour by correspondence and inquiry to assist in the detection and punishment of those guilty of kidnapping and *kindred offenses*," but probably few if any of the members would think it wrong to purchase a young boy or little girl for domestic service, or to buy a slave girl as they are commonly called. They would certainly not assent to much that is *immoral and wicked* and the other of us, for instance, would not assent to a "Bride Purchase" if the Government were to regard to parents the law does not consider "that they have any property whatever in their children." The Chinese idea is that the child is the absolute property of the father, and in one of the communications addressed to the Government by Chinese on this subject, it is said that the Government would be to poor parents if they were to be punished for disposing of their offspring as slaves. What the opinion of the **Pro Leung Kuk** might be in a case where a girl, in consideration of money paid to her parents, came an inmate of a brothel for a term years, we do not know. But we have no opinion of the term, we are not prepared to say, but we are inclined to think that would regard the contract as binding, were as the Chief Justice of course says, *ex contractu*. However this may be, it moves the Government, while acknowledging the assistance of the **Pro Leung Kuk** in the matter, to be guided by the Society in matters relating to personal liberty generally, other wise they may possibly be led into anomalous position of giving a tacit assent to the doctrine of property in the persons of others. We have thought it necessary to state this point, and I am glad to see **PARLIAMENTARY** statement, because the Society has yet in its infancy, and while we hope may do much good, there is the possibility that it may do much harm, but in any case it would be exceedingly dangerous if the Government relied on it too much, or misunderstood its object. So far as we are concerned, we have no objection to the Society at the commencement of these remarks, the Colony is much indebted to the Chief Justice for his able statement.

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the attempts of Sir JOHN FRY HENDERSON and the Commission appointed by him six years since to inject into the working of the Contagious Diseases Ordinance in Hong-kong to make it appear that the medical inspection was intolerable and degrading, that, because they could not avoid it, they were obliged to submit to it, and that in the old system of registration, loop-holes were allowed for the substitution of a girl for another and for various evasions of the law. What is now sought to see is that each of these poor creatures should retain an individuality, be made to understand that they are not mere pawns, and that at liberty pronounced her to be a prostitute. At any moment without let or hindrance To this end the Department has been occupied but steadily working for some months. A new premium against personation of a prostitute of whom one is, when she comes to register, to be made to undergo a photograph of herself, on the Register-General to insert in the Registration-book, with her name, age, &c., the other for her keep and produce to Inspectors whom to make their visits. The one at the office given up if this woman leaves the brothel, and the other for the purpose of being proved up these poor wretches to undergo better their lot, may be noted the fact that two blanks already appear in a gallery of photographs; the owners have married and left the Colony. This book looked up, by any person from the male and missing relative and suspecting her, and the Inspector is to be made to give this innovation encountered the most obstinate opposition from the keepers of the brothels for Chinese, who at first daily refused to comply with the new rule, but they so recognised the hopelessness of resistance as not difficult is now experienced with the Chinese, who are now more ready to comply with the new rule, but they so surprised visits of the Inspectors at their remarks in their journals, from which can be gathered any facts in connection with the women that may be desired. In order that the women may never be in doubt as to their freedom of action, a notice in Chinese is posted up in every brothel, which reads, "If you do not wish to be taken by the Inspector, and a copy of this is given to each new candidate for registration who she presents herself to the office. It is carefully pronounced in presence of the Registrar-General. The following is a translation of the document:—

"I, the undersigned, do, nationally, all persons residing in this place, hereby declare that I cannot be under the restraint of others; if you, my girls, have been kidnapped, purchased, or otherwise forced to come here, or have been compelled to enter before entering the brothels that I have been deceived, and I am not to be understood that this is illegal; you are at liberty to come personally to this office, or go to the office of the Registrar-General, to make a complaint. Your grievance will be at once attended to. If you want to leave the brothel, and make up your mind to do so, you may do so at any time, and the Government will certainly let you do what you please, and will not allow you to be detained against your will as a prostitute, unless you are so placed by lawful keepers. Observe this notice."

Register-General's Department

The subjoined is a list of the heading of list of names in each house, and the names of the keepers have no place of ignorance of the law to advance in justification of any attempt to hold girls in constraint:—

The purchase of people for the purpose of prostitution is synonymous to English law. Should you be found guilty of this offence, you will be forced then to become prostitute, or use all preference to have power and control over them, the law will be against you, and you will be sent to the law, so that you can be punished severely. Therefore, I advise you to be free from all such. Let each obey this warning, and if you do not, it is your own fault."

From these details it will be apparent to all that the Government can be well excused for not for those who who are to be free of their rights and privileges under British rule.

There are, however, we are glad to see many proof going to show that the innate

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spatial and the charge—Tse-Hoo, 5000—was reduced to 6000 gramma. It is thought that the iron from A-n-hui and Kiang-nan will be especially adapted for manufacturing axes and steel tools. The Government has been very anxious to develop the mines, and we trust that no superstitious beliefs will prevent the Government or the people from taking part of Censor or Expositor will be permitted to interfere with the operation.—Y. C. Daily News.

HONGKONG

The port fortnight has been dull and uneventful locally. Considerable solidification has taken place by the misrepresentations in some papers and by the reference to the Administration of the Colony.

News of the death in London on the 15th August of Sir John Sainslie, late Chief Justice of Hongkong, was received here on the 25th inst. Sir John was born in 1812, and was a member of the jury during the sitting of the Supreme Court at the attack of respect to the memory of his predecessors in office.

The British steamer *Hebe* left here on the 15th inst. for Sandakan, North Borneo, with mail and passengers for the new territory. This is the first direct steamer from Hongkong to North Borneo, and we hope it will prove the commencement of a large and important trade between the two ports.

We regret to state that intelligence was received here on the 15th inst. of the sudden death of Mr. James Boyd, lately Senior Clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, at Sandakan. Mr. Boyd had gone to North Borneo on a temporary leave of absence to assume the duties of senior accountant of the Treasury at Sandakan. We believe that apoplexy was the cause of death. Mr. Boyd leaves a widow and family, residents in Hongkong.

Many of our readers who know and respect Captain Symington, of the steamer *Humbly*, will regret to hear of his decease, which took place on the 25th ult., when, after a short illness, he died at the age of 54 years. Captain Symington was the husband of Mrs. B. Symington, who accompanied him on this trip, and was, in view of his illness, which was sudden, Captain Symington's only companion. Captain Symington was also one of the most gentlemanly shipmasters who visited the East.

The following notice appears in the *Governor's Gazette*—It is hereby notified by direction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that all communications from Chinese to the Government should be addressed in the first instance to the Registrar General as the official organ of communication between the Colonies and the mother country, and that, although they are still at liberty, if they prefer to do so, to address their communications direct to the Colonial Secretary, whose duty it will be to refer such documents to the Registrar General, with such remarks as may appear to the Governor.

The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock have for a time the services of an able and energetic officer, Mr. J. G. Liddell, the Superintendent of the Kowloon Dock, having been promoted to the position of Superintendent of the Hongkong Dock. Mr. Liddell has made himself most deservedly popular among the employees of the dock, and among his wishers, on his departure, was the large body of workmen, many of whom had been attached towards Mr. Liddell took a tangible form, a subscription being raised by which a beautiful worked silk flag was obtained, and this was presented to Mr. Liddell by the employees of the Ocean Company's steamer *Cyclops* on the 24th inst. Much sympathy is felt with Mr. Liddell in consequence of his recent bereavement, Mr. Liddell having died quite suddenly, just as he was about to visit China on his usual tour.

In connection with the loss of the steamer *Mary Thatcham* near Hongkong, some few news items, a rather interesting little episode has come to our knowledge. It seems that some thirty hundred of the passengers were left in Japan for several days, and that their good fortune in being unable to send a steamer up to convey them back, meant to the wrath and indignation of the Chinese Authorities the fact that the steamer *Prizee*, which stopped in the harbour en route. While in port at Sandakan, Mr. Aitken's want for some purpose on board, and from the harbour was reported on the 25th inst. to the Government, and was received with relief, without the form of a trial, loaded with coal.

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[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

29th September.

Owing to a demonstration by the Chinese authorities to the Viceroy on account of an illegal seizure of a certain junk on the way from Amoy to Colaba and the murder of one of her crew and wounding of five others by the Chinese crew, a force of about 400 soldiers under four military ministers advanced upon the boundary line at Passaleo and ordered the junk to leave the said place. The commander of the Chinese troops to occupy the place within eight hours, resulting in the Chinese only pulling down one of the ten tents on the place, the junk remaining where they were. A detachment of 100 Chinese soldiers, 100 men of the National Guards, and the Police to be ready for any emergency, and they are all under arms. The Ministry here will give the ultimatum in case the Chinese refuse to leave the place. The military camp is stationed near the Passaleo fort, and will watch the movements of the Chinese and report to the Government.

30th September.

The tents pitched by the Chinese troops near the Boundary line have been removed to a place where at Chin-ang out everything is now settled. His Excellency the Governor did well in taking timely precaution against a probability of an invasion on that point.

As several years ago since the memorable 28th September, 1874, a *Tai Wan* sun sung at the Cathedral for our safe deliverance from a repetition of such a calamity.

On 1st that the Right Bishop, Monsignor, who has been here in November on a few months' tour, and that the affairs of the diocese will be entrusted to a young priest in preference to the Monsignor, who has had some years of experience for the performance of sacerdotal duties.

The "Lousists" paid a visit on Monday, 2nd September, to the Bishop on Thursday afternoon at the Club Club. They were accompanied by another entertainment had the first of which was attended with success in the shape of a larger audience.

Several newspapers are about to be started here shortly, but I do not think either can have a long life, for business is extremely dull, the import and export trades are all in the hands of foreigners, and the creation of the paper of ten, which is exclusively in the hands of the Chinese. Those of the Manchus who possess capital employ it in shares of good public companies at their place or keep it in banks.

There is a prospect of the appearance of newspapers at one time. On the other hand, however, one of the two papers to be started is feared at 20 cents a month subscription!

With regard to the future of the colony, my next Sunday is fixed for the procession of Our Lady of the Rosary. I should think the *Wah Chai* would be behoof full of the faithful and others who have been so long in the colony.

The comet was viewed here a few days since early in the morning; its position was N.N.W. by N.

C. H. N.

CANTON

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

19th September.

Upon the arrival of the Acting Viceroy, Tsen Hui-tsin, there hung round the Viceroy's military officers, hungry-nosed expectants, who hoped that the appearance of a new Viceroy would demand a rearrangement and distribution of offices, and that they would be able to obtain the numerous office-seekers to obtain an interview with His Excellency for the purpose of registering their claims, but all without avail. The Viceroy, however, chanced inquiries to be made of the military officers, and he was surprised with the result that he found that not only were all the posts filled but that there were plenty of expectants waiting for any vacancies that might arise. He accordingly issued a notification for the information of the military officers, stating that he had only come to fill an administrative appointment, that there were no vacancies to which he could appoint any of them, that the military officers were not to be considered as inferior officers will to model, and that those military officers whose expectancies in the city who have a prior claim to consideration to any stranger, he therefore advises the office-seekers to return to their homes, and that he will not be troubled with them, but not less money in his hands.

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Japan

Yesterday the Chinese cruiser *Wu-yuen*, known as No. 29, arrived from Korea with Mr. Kien Kuan, Minister of the Navy, Mr. Chayson, and three Korean Ambassadors.

The Chinese and Korean trading regulations have been accepted and signed by the Korean Government. The Korean Government has appointed an official. Japan receives 550,000 yu indemnity and it was asked for by Japan. Japan will send 1,500 men there till the money has been paid. The Chinese and the three Korean Ambassadors on the occasion of a meeting at the Chinese Legation, decided not to punish his father, whom it is Chinese etiquette to call his uncle. Total Ma, Admiral of the Navy, General Wei and Mr. Chayson are said to have been sent to the Chinese Legation. Li Hsiang-chang to the Emperor for their able management of the Korean affair.

11th September, 1892.

The Korean King's father has returned to Seoul from Tientsin, where he had been for Li Hsiang-chang's request or a different order was given from Peking. The Koreans are freely taking the money from the Koreans for 550,000 yu against the yu 200,000. Only asked for 1,500 yu. The Korean Government and agreed to 1,500 Japanese troops to remain till the money is paid and 120 of the Korean ministers to be released. Only asked for 1,500 yu. Total can answer those questions.

It was not Admiral Ting but General Wei Hsiang-chang, who succeeded in getting the Korean King's father to go to Korea. Admiral Ting, and detained him by request of the Korean King. General Wei Hsiang-chang has gone back to Korea. The Korean King's father is said to be in China to General Wei Hsiang-chang. The settlement of the Korean and Japanese affairs as been come to.

13th September, 1892.

The day before yesterday the Korean King's father, together with the Korean King, went to visit to H.E. Li; they had a long interview and the Korean King's father remains a guest in the Chinese Legation.

To-day Captain Miguard entertained to break up the Korean King's father, the three Ambassadors, Total Ma, Li, Messrs. Milneoff and General.

The Chinese Minister of the Queen of Korea has also had an interview with H.E. Li.

The Admiral of H.E. Russian Majesty's ship, the *Neppa*, for this port. It is said to be to visit to Peking.

Since the Japanese and Korea Affair there has been less excitement here among the Chinese.

Work on the rik, the two men who distinguished themselves in the Russo-Japanese war, were sent up here by *Ma-an*, were behaved with three others, in the afternoon about 4 p.m., outside the West-gate. Yang Taitai has remained here. They succeeded in arresting the three men.

P.S.—The Dai In Kuo and the senior Ambassador, invited by Captain Miguard, could not attend the reception. The Ambassador Ping-tai, if the three gentlemen were to be sent to the United Kingdom and they visited the Foreign Settlement at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, where they were kindly entertained by the British Consul.

15th September, 1892.

Yesterday evening at 7.40 p.m. a heavy rain and rain lightning passed over this; it lasted about 10.30 p.m. it has blown down H.B.M. Co. the telegraph line from the station to the station about 600 ft from here, at Ling Ching-fu, the telegraph line has been out of order since Thursday; the battery there has been broken down till it is repaired the line cannot be repaired.

16th September, 1892.

It is said that, although H.E. Li, considered the influence and power would be sufficient to get the Korean King's father to go to Korea, but he was not back from Tientsin, he found that the gentleman is too much for him as he was for H.E. Li. Li Hsiang-chang, had his programme for the Korean King's father to go to Korea, but he did not go into send him to Peking and let him try what they can do. The Chinese say Dai In Kuo has right on his side and therefore Li fears him and cannot do as he thought he could.

The Korean Ambassadors, it is said, have been engaged with Li in regard to the money paid by the Korean Government to the Japanese. They all therefore leave by the ship.

